

FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD

Regular Meeting November 30, 2005 General Administration Building Olympia, WA

Board Members Present: Jennifer Gregerson, TJ Nedrow, Sharon Colby, Jim Broman, Mark Kahley and Wayne Wienholz

Board Members Absent: Dean Hosni, Buck Lane and Joe Coultman

WSP Staff Present: Mike Matlick, Anjela Foster, Chuck King, Dan Johnson, Dan Eikum and Ellen Tombleson

Guests Present: Tim Nogler and John Neff - State Building Code Council
Roger Ferris - Washington Fire Commissioner's Association
Antonio Gianatti – Executive Policy Office

OPENING:

Sharon opened the meeting with introductions at approximately 9:10

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion: Jim Broman moved and Mark Kahley seconded to approve the agenda, with the following additions:

- 2006 Priorities
- Firework Committee
- Parking Passes

Motion passes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: Jim Broman moved and TJ Nedrow seconded to approve the August 24, 2005 Regular Meeting minutes.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

Motion: TJ Nedrow moved and Mark Kahley seconded to approve the October 26, 2005 Work Session minutes.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

Ellen advised that she would send out parking passes prior to the January Work Session.

REPORTS - State Fire Marshal Report

Mobilization Division ~

Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick introduced Dan Eikum, Assistant State Fire Marshal of the Mobilization Division. Dan distributed and reviewed information providing an overview of the 2005 mobilization costs. He also advised that his division held a critique of the 2005 Fire Season, and identified communications as an area that could be improved.

In discussion on the annual Fire Report, an issue was raised on possible ways to improve getting the report published sooner in the year. It was advised that the Bureau is encouraging data reporting on a monthly basis. Jim Broman inquired if there is a way that Fire Chiefs could be advised if their departments are getting their reports in. He suggested sending an email, possible on a county wide basis that details which departments did and did not report. He also suggested sending a "data received receipt" to the Fire Chief.

Dan also distributed a copy of a training package that has been developed by the State Fire Marshal's Office and is being delivered in licensed care facilities. Dan advised that the training is being delivered by request from the facility, or local fire agency.

In discussion regarding the need to incorporate evacuation practices in the training, Dan advised that it is a requirement for receiving Homeland Security funding for each city to have evacuation plans developed for all buildings in their city.

Due to a schedule conflict, the agenda was revised to move up Bob Maki's presentation on the Fire Service Training Account

Fire Service Training Account – Bob Maki presented an overview of the Fire Service Training Account (Fund 086), and explained the dynamics of revenue and expenditures for this account. Bob explained that RCW 43.43.944 states that funds may be appropriated only for fire service training. It also allows funds to be used for school prevention activities. Fund 086 receives revenue through fire insurance premiums, which amount to approximately 4 million, per biennium to support the Basic Fire Fighter Training Program.

Bob advised that tuition and fees (approximately 2.26 million per biennium) charged by the FTA are a second source of revenue for Fund 086. Also, he pointed out that, ideally, FTA should recover its full operating costs through the fees it charges. An overview of the monthly fund balance from July through October was provided along with estimates shown for November through June 2006.

In discussion regarding spending authority (appropriation authority) for the Basic Fire Fighter Training Program, Bob advised that although there is a set dollar figure each year, the WSP can submit a Decision Package to request an increase in spending authority. This would be accomplished by having the Fire Protection Bureau propose a Decision Package to the WSP. Alternatively, WSP also has some residual, currently unused appropriation authority in fund 086 of just over \$1 million that we can allocate to the Basic Fire Fighting Program if needed.

Discussion was held on the concern that as a significant fund balance exists in the Basic Fire Fighter Training Program, that these funds could be transferred to another fund by legislative action.

Bob clarified the philosophy of offering courses at the FTA to the fire service is that these courses are offered at a 10 percent discount to the fire service, courses offered to other governmental and public agencies are offered at a mark up of anywhere from 10 percent to 50 percent.

Following TJ Nedrow's suggestion to revise the Basic Fire Fighter Training Program reimbursement rate to incorporate cost of living increases, Bob advised that the original reimbursement rate of \$2 per hour has been raised to \$3 per hour.

It was suggested that discussion be held at a future work session to discuss the advantage of compiling Basic Firefighter Training requests by county and other program management options.

Due to a schedule conflict, the agenda was revised to move up the Decision Item relating to sprinklers in nightclubs:

DECISION ITEM

Tim Nogler reviewed ESHB 1401 Fire Safety in Night Clubs.

Motion: Jim Broman moved and Wayne Wienholz seconded to approve proposed rules of ESFB 1401.

Motion passes. Unanimous

Prevention Division ~

Assistant State Fire Marshal Anjela Foster provided an overview of the successes and challenges in her division. Anjela advised that current challenges include the implementation of new software for inspections, plan review and licensing, the development of a fire investigation plan, and staff vacancies. The successes include the preparation of WAC 212-17 for public hearing and the completion of job descriptions to comply with the new human resource reform requirements.

Anjela provided an overview of the Fireworks Study group and advised that approximately 20 people attended the initial meeting held this week, which included representation from the WSFMA, ATF, local Law Enforcement and the Fireworks industry. The focus of the initial meeting was to identify issues, which will be returned to the Study Group to prioritize.

Mike advised that this may be an ongoing effort to address issues other than those associations with fireworks, and that other members may need to be added to the Study Group.

Fire Training Academy Business Plan ~

Mike advised that the FTA Business Plan has been completed and forwarded to the Office of Financial management (OFM). Once OFM reviews the Plan and advises that there are no policy issues identified, the Business Plan will be placed on the Bureau's webpage and hard copies will be provided to all of the major fire service organizations.

Following discussion on the cover page of the Business Plan, it was suggested that the title should be modified to include verbiage indicating that the plan does not pertain solely to the FTA, but reflects a statewide training program.

State Fire Defense Committee ~

Dan Johnson provided an overview of a White Paper that was developed to address "No Man's Land" and to provide engine staffing to enhance initial attacks. Dan provided further information on one option that would have 50 firefighters staff 25 engines in local communities who do not have adequate staff to respond to initial attacks. Dan also reviewed maps attached to the White Paper which identifies these areas. Dan also reviewed a proposed staffing

schedule and stressed that the benefit is that this provides the ability to have a quicker initial attack response.

Dan also provided information on credentialing of Firefighters as it relates to integrating NIMS into first responders in Washington State. Dan advised that the next step in this plan will be to add in components from the State Fire Defense Committee, and advised that he will provide updates as progress is made. This will ultimately be presented to the Fire Protection Policy Board as a Decision Item to be approved for implementation. Antonio Gianatti advised that he will forward information on the NIMS Executive Policy.

Training Committee ~

Following discussion on the focus of Fire Protection Policy Board's Training Committee, it was suggested that the Training Committee be charged with developing a specific product. It was suggested that Jim Broman, Chuck King and Brian VanCamp meet to discuss direction and to have Brian attend a future Work Session for further discussion. Mark Kahley recommended that the Board develop a charter for the Committee.

Fire Investigation Work Group ~

Anjela provided a draft plan that was developed by the Work Group, which is based on three tiers of response. Anjela pointed out that the Plan specifies that all training will be paid for with state funding.

In further discussion, Wayne Wienholz advised that he has fundamental issues with the proposal, as it relates to jurisdictions who are already performing the work specified in statute. He further advised that he will not support any proposal that may have a negative impact on those jurisdictions who are already following the law.

Jim advised that he feels the intent of the plan is to address the large number of fires going uninvestigated in the smaller jurisdictions who do not have the necessary resources. Jim feels addressing the jurisdictions who do have the necessary resources to conduct fire investigations, but choose not to needs to be a key element.

Jim requested that a map be developed to identify where the 4,613 undetermined fires in 2003 occurred, and a matrix identifying the counties who are not meeting their obligations.

Decision Items ~

Motion: Mark Kahley moved and Jennifer Gregerson seconded to approve reaccreditation for both the National Academy of Professional Driving and the Seattle Fire Department.

Motion passes. Unanimous

Motion: Jim Broman moved and TJ Nedrow seconded to approve the State Fire Defense Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions/

Motion passes. Unanimous

Motion: Jim Broman moved and TJ Nedrow seconded to approve the Fire Protection Policy Board's 2006 Meeting Schedule.

Motion passes. Unanimous

Washington State Fire Service Leadership Forum ~

Following discussion, it was agreed that the priorities for the Fire Protection Policy Board to pass to pass onto the Forum for 2006 will be:

- FTA Infrastructure
- Regional HazMat Teams
- Firefighter Health and Safety

Other Business ~

Mike provided an over view of a Fair Labor Standards Act settlement which resulted in significant unanticipated costs in the current biennium which may impact the 086 fund. Mike also advised that he is in the process of hiring a Fire and Emergency Program Specialist (FEPS) at the FTA which may create the possibility of additional negative impact on the 086 fund. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Mike should move forward with filling the FEPS positions.

Mike provided an overview of costs to make necessary repairs to the ARFF prop at the FTA, and discussed impacts of utilizing the 086 funds to make the repairs.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00.

Next Meeting:

January 25, 2006 – Work Session
General Administration Building
WSP HQ Conference Room

Approved:

Sharon Colby, FPPB Chair (Date)